



# News Release

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## **Drinking water advisory ends in Ephrata**

**OLYMPIA** — The City of Ephrata ended its boil-water advisory today. Residents no longer have to boil their tap water.

The state Department of Health and the city issued the advisory on Friday after *E. coli* was found in one water sample and coliform bacteria were found in several other water samples. The advisory affected about 7,100 people, including more than 3,200 homes and businesses in the Grant County community.

The city has disinfected and flushed the water system and collected 16 water samples for testing. All of the samples were satisfactory, which shows the water is once again safe to drink. The state and the Grant County Health District have not received any reports of illnesses linked to the water issue.

The city and state suspect that contamination got into one of the city's wells. The well was shut down on Friday. It will be kept offline until repairs are made and the water is shown to be safe.

"We're pleased with the city's quick response to this situation," said Denise Clifford, director of the Office of Drinking Water. "Getting the word out about health advisories quickly and effectively is a key to protecting the public's health when things like this happen."

Residents who have questions can call the city at 509-754-4601.

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Visit the Washington Department of Health Web site at <http://www.doh.wa.gov> for a healthy dose of information.